Directed Reading-Connecting Activity (**DR-CA**)

1. Select a story or passage that students have not read. Show students the title of the story and pose the question: “What do you think this story will be about?” Encourage students to draw upon their background knowledge to make predictions about the story. Record student’s responses on the chalkboard, chart paper, overhead or SMART Board.
2. Select a portion of the texts for the students to read. Choose a stopping point after they have read enough of the story to have a sense of the problem, but before the climax. Have the student s stop at a predetermined point
3. Have the following questions on the chalkboard, overhead or SMART Board:
   * What other books does this story remind you of?
   * How does this story relate to what you’ve learned in school?
   * How does this story remind you of yourself?
4. Using the attached DR-CA chart, have students discuss what has happened in the story up to the point they have read and write their ideas on the chart.
5. Next, have the students generate ideas about what they think will happen next in the story. Encourage students to think of as many possibilities as they can. Have them share their ideas.
6. Tell student that their predictions should be based on evidence from the story thus far. Have student justify their prediction with evidence from the story. Then have small groups of students share their predictions with justifications.
7. Repeat the DR-Ca procedures one or two more times during the story. Have students use the DR-CA Chart for their ideas.
8. Encourage students to use the DR-Ca thinking process as they read independently.

**DR-CA Chart**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Story Title** |  |
| Connections to other books |  |
| Connections to school learning |  |
| Connections to self |  |